

Date : 6/7/2018 2:39:51 PM

To : "Dennis Holland Jr."

Cc : "Philip Russo" , "ldcampsen@gmail.com" , "McPhillips, Charles V." , "Jacqueline Chavis" , "Melinda Boone"

Subject : Re: Lindenwood Elementary School

Attachment : image001.png;

Dear Dr. Boone, Dr. Chavis, Mr. Holland, Mr. Russo, Ms. Campsen, and Mr. McPhillips,

There has been some discussion post Mr. Russo's email and I would like to respond.

My take away from this gathering was that it was an opportunity for Mr. Holland to meet with members of the community and begin a discussion on what could be done to support the students, staff and families of Lindenwood.

As I shared with the group, the volunteer background checks had been under the umbrella of the Norfolk Education Foundation. The Administration was in the process of developing a new system to be implemented. Mr. Holland, you mentioned this as well in your response. I stated I could follow up with administration on how that process was coming along.

Regarding the charter discussion, I appreciated the willingness to put many options on the table. I did not leave the conversation with the thought that Lauren, Mr. McPhillips and I were going to work on making Lindenwood a charter school. If this were the case, the entire board and superintendent would be the ones to have discussion and make the decision. In no way is there any effort to not be completely transparent with Dr. Boone, other board members or the District leadership team. I want to apologize if there was any confusion regarding this. As it was our first time meeting, I was just happy to meet everyone and see the excitement around community engagement.

As I shared earlier, as a school board member, I am responsible for policy matters. I am thrilled to see the enthusiasm and dedication towards supporting this school and the families it serves.

Noelle Gabriel, MD
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From: Dennis Holland Jr.
Sent: Wednesday, June 6, 2018 1:37 PM
To: Philip Russo; Noelle M. Gabriel; ldcampsen@gmail.com; McPhillips, Charles V.
Cc: Jacqueline Chavis
Subject: RE: Lindenwood Elementary School

I appreciate your continued support and proactive participation in our school. I too, share your excitement regarding Lindenwood moving forward. I would like to reply to a few of the items below as I understand them.

The Norfolk Foundation of Teachers had an online process to approve volunteers working in classrooms and directly with students. When they left Norfolk Public Schools, the process formerly used naturally was closed and no longer utilized. Central administration is aware and looking at alternatives to replace that process. Currently there is a paper form that volunteers can submit and be approved, with an emphasis on volunteering for field trips.

I appreciate the discussion on charter schools. Chuck was able to share some exciting data and examples of like schools who have had great success with charter schools. I am sorry I didn't think to ask when we meet, but has this idea been shared with the Dr. Boone, Superintendent of NPS? I have called my direct supervisor so she is aware.

As always, thank you for your willingness to work with the students of Lindenwood.

Dennis Holland
Interim Principal, Lindenwood
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Cell: 757-274-5755

From: Philip Russo [mailto:phil@philrussojrlaw.com]

Sent: Monday, June 4, 2018 11:38 PM

To: Dennis Holland Jr. <dholland@nps.k12.va.us>; Noelle M. Gabriel <ngabriel@nps.k12.va.us>; ldcampsen@gmail.com; McPhillips, Charles V. <cvmcphillips@kaufcan.com>

Subject: Lindenwood Elementary School

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Thank you for meeting on Wednesday. I was inspired by the energy in all of you and the drive to make a change at Lindenwood.

I would like to follow up with the action items as I understood them to be stated:

Noelle and Lauren are going to determine what regulations/problems if any exist in allowing volunteers in our school. Dennis indicated that the parents could attend field trips, however, they cannot otherwise volunteer in the school. This is a critical issue which has a profound effect on any school's future. In fact, I have a client who is a martial arts black belt who would be very interested in creating a program at Lindenwood to teach kids martial arts. I find it hard to believe that an offer of that kind would have to be refused.

All of us will actively discuss, if not promote the charter school concept or alternative model for Lindenwood to our appropriate contacts. I would imagine that Chuck, Noelle and Lauren probably best understand the politics in clearing a path forward toward this effort and the individuals who control the path. I would be happy to attend any meeting to promote such an effort.

I am going to try to find some more information to see exactly how long it has been since Lindenwood has been accredited. Two years is too much so five years is awful. Beyond that timeâ€¦

If I missing something regarding these action items, please do not hesitate to let me know. Again, we cannot wait until the new school year.

Phil Russo

Philip L. Russo, Jr.



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